

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Objections to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the abstract for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants have amended the abstract in a manner to overcome this objection. The specification also includes editorial amendments that have been made for grammatical and general readability purposes. No new matter has been added.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to the specification.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kawabe et al. (U.S. 7,161,576).

Claim 1, as amended, recites the features of changing an amount of light emitted from the light source according to a light-change timing, wherein the amount of light includes 0%, 100% and a value therebetween; and adjusting transmissivity of the display device in accordance with the amount of light. Applicants respectfully submit that Kawabe does not disclose or suggest such a combination of features.

Regarding Kawabe, Applicants note that this reference discloses the use of a liquid crystal display device that is able to control a light emitting amount according to a predetermined timing (see Fig. 18). In this regard, Applicants note that the timing chart of Fig. 18 of Kawabe includes

a frame cycle 1801, an image writing period 1802 for half of the frame cycle 1801, a blanking writing period 1803 for half of the frame cycle 1801, an optical response 1806 of liquid crystal, and lighting timing 1807 for the backlighting (see col. 26, lines 47-56).

With respect to the lighting timing 1807, Kawabe discloses at col. 26, lines 57-58 that the "lighting timing 1807 for the backlighting is turned ON at the High level and OFF at the Low level". Accordingly, in Kawabe, the light emitting amount is either 100% (when the light source is turned ON) or 0% (when the light source is turned OFF).

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that while Kawabe discloses the ability to turn a light source ON and OFF according to a predetermined timing, that Kawabe does not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious the features of changing an amount of light emitted from the light source according to a light-changing timing, wherein the amount of light includes 0%, 100% and a value therebetween; and adjusting transmissivity of the display device in accordance with the amount of light, as recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Kawabe, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 2-4 and 6 depend from claim 1 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 7, Applicants note that this claim has been amended to recite that the video signal-analyzing unit synchronizes a timing at which the display device is to display a picture based on the adjusted video signal from said video signal-adjusting unit, with a timing at which the light source is to change a light-emitting amount in response to the light source-controlling signal from said light source-controlling unit, the light emitting amount including 0%,

100% and a value therebetween, and that the video signal-adjusting unit adjusts transmissivity of the display device in accordance with the light-emitting amount.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Kawabe does not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 7 is patentable over Kawabe, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 8-10 depend from claim 7 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 12, Applicants note that this claim has been amended to recite that the video signal-analyzing unit synchronizes a timing at which said display device displays a picture based on the adjusted video signal from said video signal-adjusting unit, with a timing at which the light source changes a light-emitting amount in response to the light source-controlling signal from the light source-controlling unit, the light-emitting amount including 0%, 100% and a value therebetween; and that the video signal-adjusting unit adjusts transmissivity of the display device in accordance with the light-emitting amount.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Kawabe does not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 12 is patentable over Kawabe, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 13-15 depend from claim 12 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 5, 11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawabe et al. (U.S. 7,161,576) in view of Fuji et al. (U.S. 2003/0038886).

Claim 5 depends from claim 1, claim 11 depends from claim 7, and claim 16 depends from claim 12. Applicants respectfully submit that Fuji fails to cure the deficiencies of Kawabe, as discussed above, with respect to claims 1, 7 and 12. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 5, 11 and 16 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Further, Applicants note that claim 5 has been amended to recite that an interval from the Vsync-signal to when the amount of light begins to be changed changes in accordance with the temperature detected by the temperature sensor. Applicants respectfully submit that neither Kawabe nor Fujii discloses or suggests such a feature.

In particular, regarding Kawabe, as noted above, while this reference discloses the ability to turn on and off a light source at a predetermined timing, Applicants respectfully submit that Kawabe does not disclose or in any way suggest the above-noted feature recited in amended claim 5. Regarding Fujii, Applicants note that while this reference discloses the ability to sample an electrical signal that is output from a temperature sensor 4 in synchronization with a horizontal synchronization signal (see Abstract), that Fujii does not disclose or in any way suggest the above-noted feature recited in amended claim 5.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious all of the features recited in claim 5.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 5 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claims 11 and 16, Applicants note that each of these claims has been amended to recite that an interval from the Vsync-signal to when the light source-controlling unit begins to change the amount of light changes in accordance with the temperature detected by the temperature sensor.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 5, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art does not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious such a feature. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 11 and 16 are patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.


IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryouta HATA et al.

By: 
Kenneth W. Fields
Registration No. 52,430
Attorney for Applicants

KWF/jjv
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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